



MYNA NEWSLETTER NO 4

CLARENCE VALLEY

CONSERVATION IN ACTION



OUR TALLY CONTINUES TO RISE AND IS NOW 1791 MYNAS

AUTUMN IS HERE

All the young inexperienced mynas have left the nest and hopefully found their way into your traps. Smaller nesting groups will start to decrease and as winter approaches the mynas will start to flock and find a suitable roost tree for those colder months. Even if myna numbers decrease in your yard, please report any sightings on the way to shopping or see during your travels (numbers and location) to mynas@cvcia.org.au

Even though January was a very wet month, the tallies of mynas caught was still good - 157.

MARKETS

In February 2012 we had information stalls at Glenreagh Markets and Grafton District Services Club Market.



CVCIA's display at Glenreagh markets

Both were well attended; 3 new trappers in the Glenreagh area. The GDS Market was washed out last November but this time the weather held and we spoke to 30-40 people.

Next information stall will be at Maclean Car park markets on Saturday 10th March.

If you have a local community market or special market day, please let us know as we would like to bring our information display to your area. Please contact Kevin on 6649 4712 or kevin@cvcia.org.au.

GRAFTON ROTARY CLUB

Rotary invited CIA to speak about Mynas at a February meeting. Thank you to Ian, Cathy and the other members to allow us to spread the word.

EARTH MATTERS

CIA has also been invited to speak at Earth Matters meeting on Monday 19th March at the Grafton Primary School (staffroom) from 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm followed by refreshments. So please come along and say Hi, or tell your friends and neighbours to come along and find out about the Common Indian Myna.

IN YOUR GARDEN - tips

If it's possible, cover your chook yard with netting to stop mynas from feeding.

If you have palm trees, please prune the dead fronds. By keeping your palm trees tidy, it can discourage mynas from roosting there or at least reduce the number roosting.

THE GRAFTON EXAMINER

Recently ran an article on the Indian Myna and CIA's trapping program which created a lot of interest. We had more sightings reported and placed several traps following on from the article.

TRAPPING MILESTONES

Graham from Coutts Crossing passed his 100th myna in June 2011. He said: "Because Indian Mynas were in huge numbers in Coutts and prowling his backyard, he saw less and less of the native birds that used to visit, so reducing the number of mynas is bringing the native birds back".

Meet a CVCIA member & volunteer

Nadia our Maclean and Lawrence coordinator is leaving us for WA and will be sorely missed. Even though she was only with us a short time, she has been a great help placing lots of traps and encouraging the newer trappers.

If you know of anyone who may be interested in helping out in that area or elsewhere please let us know as help is hard to find. No experience necessary, training and assistance will be provided.

UPDATES

Good news - Port Macquarie-Hastings Shire has established an Indian Myna program. They can be contacted at Hastings Landcare 6586 4465 or hastingslandcare@midcoast.com.au

DID YOU KNOW?

There are 63 known native species in the Clarence Valley that rely on tree hollows for nesting. These include birds, frogs, snakes, micro-bats and mammals.

Mynas compete for these tree hollows so are a real danger to our natives; so spread the word and keep up the great work.

WARY MYNAS

The Canberra IM Action Group's newsletter suggests:

"A mirror (100mmx 150mm) inside the catching (smaller) chamber in line with one of the tunnels is providing an excellent way to lure in the wary mynas. Seeing their reflection, they are fooled into thinking it is safe inside the trap and happily join their "friend". Just tie the mirror (a \$2 shop is a good source) to the inside of the catching chamber in line with the tunnel."

If you'd like to try this trick and you visit Grafton, please contact Laura 6649 4712 to arrange to pick up a mirror.

CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY COMMUNITY ACTION GRANT

The CVCIA has received a very welcome and much needed grant to assist the program. Our thanks go to Pam Kenway our secretary for her efforts with this. It will provide the myna group with a part time project officer (on contract) and funds for education and promotional works. So we will be continuing our visits to markets and other community activities and extending our CO₂ euthanasing locations.

TRAP BUILDING

Peter and now Donna his lovely wife are happily building and repairing traps for the program freeing us to attend more markets and group discussions. It's great to have such helpful members. We are also building prototype transfer cages as part of our extended CO₂ euthanasing.

Acmena's trap building is also progressing. We have taken delivery of 8 completed and partially completed traps. Peter and Donna are busy bringing them up to scratch and adding animal welfare items such as perches, roofs and shade cloth, etc.

MYNAS TRAPPED to JANUARY 2012

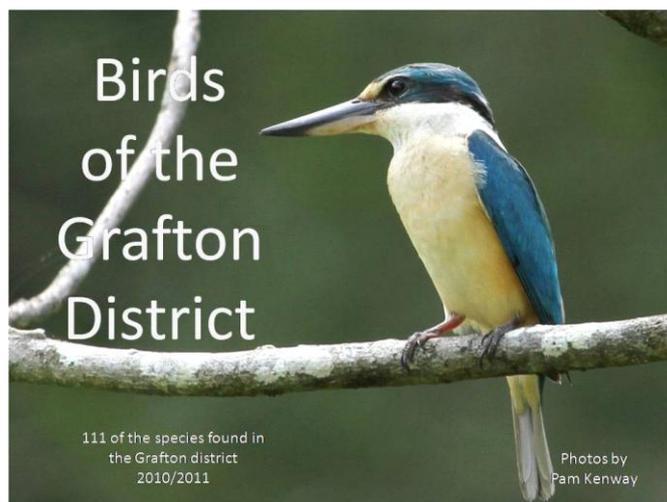
1791

OUR TOP 10 TRAPPING AREAS (Jan 2011 to Jan 2012)

1. South Grafton	358
2. Waterview Heights	236
3. Coutts Crossing	223
4. Palmers Channel	182
5. Brushgrove	80
6. Great Marlow	78
7. Glenreagh	70
8. Grafton	68
9. Chambigne	51
10. Brooms Head	39

Support our Indian Myna Program

Over 100 beautiful photographs of native birds from the Grafton District taken by Pam Kenway our local photographer & CIA area coordinator



Only \$10 at Grafton Tourist Information Office
Spring Street South Grafton

Do you have email access? If so please let us know as we prefer to send this newsletter electronically

Email: mynas@cvcia.org.au , laura@cvcia.org.au , kevin@cvcia.org.au , or your area coordinator.

Phone: Laura or Kevin on 6649 4712
or your area co-ordinator.

Website: www.cvcia.org.au